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Agenda item 26

# Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

## Report of the Second Committee

*Rapporteur*: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

## I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 10th, 11th, 22nd and 27th meetings, on 12 October, 8 November and 3 December 2018. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1] Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, on 8, 9 and 10 October.[2]

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on activities during the International Year of Pulses, 2016 (A/73/287);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on agriculture development, food security and nutrition (A/73/293);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a report on the main decisions and policy recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security (A/73/69-E/2018/47);

(d) Letter dated 4 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the forty-second annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign

[1] A/C.2/73/SR.10, A/C.2/73/SR.11, A/C.2/73/SR.23 and A/C.2/73/SR.27.
[2] See A/C.2/73/SR.2, A/C.2/73/SR.3, A/C.2/73/SR.4, A/C.2/73/SR.5 and A/C.2/73/SR.6.



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Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77, held in New York on 27 September 2018 (A/73/417);

(e) Letter dated 22 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Malawi to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 26 September 2018 (A/73/455).

4. At the 10th meeting, on 12 October, the representative of the Natural Resources and Interlinkages Branch of the Division for Sustainable Development Goals of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made an introductory statement and responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Egypt, Nigeria and Paraguay.

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.[3]

6. At the 27th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee.[4]

## II. Consideration of proposals

### A. Draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.2/Rev.1

7. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Costa Rica, on behalf of Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, the Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Ireland, Malawi, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Panama, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "World Food Safety Day" (A/C.2/73/L.2/Rev.1).

8. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

9. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee announced that Armenia, Czechia, France, Georgia, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Montenegro, Myanmar, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Turkey, Uganda and Zambia had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bhutan, the Central African Republic, Chile, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Nigeria, Norway, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Togo and Ukraine also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.2/Rev.1 (see para. 29, draft resolution I).

11. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

[3] See A/C.2/73/SR.23.
[4] See A/C.2/73/SR.27.

## B. Draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.3/Rev.1

12. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Burkina Faso, on behalf of Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guinea, Honduras, Mexico, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Singapore and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced a draft resolution entitled "World Pulses Day" (A/C.2/73/L.3/Rev.1).

13. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

14. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee announced that Belize, Cameroon, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Myanmar, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Uruguay and Zambia had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bhutan, Botswana, the Central African Republic, Chile, the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iceland, Malawi, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Ukraine, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

15. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.3/Rev.1 (see para. 29, draft resolution II).

## C. Draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.5/Rev.1

16. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Finland, on behalf of Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Timor-Leste, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Year of Plant Health, 2020" (A/C.2/73/L.5/Rev.1).

17. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the fifth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.5/Rev.1.[1]

18. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution, as orally corrected, had no programme budget implications.

19. Also at the 23rd meeting, the Secretary of the Committee announced that Belarus, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Latvia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nigeria, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Bhutan, Chile, China, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Israel, Japan, Lithuania, Mauritius, Oman, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

[1] See A/C.2/73/SR.23.

20. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.5/Rev.1, as orally corrected (see para. 29, draft resolution III).

## D. Draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.7 and A/C.2/73/L.7/Rev.1 and amendments contained in document A/C.2/73/L.66

21. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition" (A/C.2/73/L.7).

22. At its 27th meeting, on 3 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/73/L.7/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.7.

23. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, made a statement and introduced proposed amendments to draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.7/Rev.1, as contained in document A/C.2/73/L.66.[5]

24. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the proposed amendments had no programme budget implications.

25. Also at its 27th meeting, the Committee rejected the proposed amendments contained in document A/C.2/73/L.66 by a recorded vote of 119 to 44, with 8 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Against:*

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United

[5] See A/C.2/73/SR.27.

Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Abstaining:*

Iceland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Switzerland, Turkey.

26. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.7/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

27. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.7/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 180 to 1 (see para. 29, draft resolution IV). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

None.

28. Also at the 27th meeting, after the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine) and the United States of America.

## III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

29. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

### Draft resolution I
### World Food Safety Day

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

*Noting* that there is no food security without food safety and that in a world where the food supply chain has become more complex, any adverse food safety incident may have global negative effects on public health, trade and the economy,

*Noting also* that improving food safety contributes positively to trade, employment and poverty alleviation,

*Taking into account* that the global burden of foodborne diseases is considerable and affects individuals of all ages, in particular children under 5 years of age, and persons living in low-income regions of the world,

*Cognizant* of the urgent need to raise awareness at all levels and to promote and facilitate actions for global food safety, on the basis of scientific principles, in line with the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization,

*Recalling* the leading role of the Codex Alimentarius Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization in setting international food standards to protect the health of consumers and in ensuring fair practices in the food trade, and the leading role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization in providing capacity-building to countries to implement food safety systems,

*Recalling* resolution 11/2017 adopted on 7 July 2017 by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its fortieth session,

*Acknowledging* that promoting sustainable agriculture can contribute to food safety,

1. *Decides* to designate 7 June as World Food Safety Day;

2. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, and invites all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, individuals and other relevant stakeholders, to observe World Food Safety Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities;

3. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, the parent organizations of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, to jointly facilitate the observance of World Food Safety Day, in collaboration with other relevant organizations, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

## Draft resolution II
## World Pulses Day

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

*Recalling* resolution 10/2017 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, adopted on 7 July 2017,[1]

*Recognizing* the success of the International Year of Pulses 2016, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/231 of 20 December 2013, which raised the role of pulses in contributing to sustainable food production aimed towards food security and nutrition,

*Noting* that pulse crops such as lentils, beans, peas and chickpeas are one of the sources of plant-based proteins and amino acids for a healthy diet for people around the globe, and recognizing that the high iron content of pulses, when combined with food high in vitamin C, makes them a potent food for replenishing iron stores, particularly for women of reproductive age, as well as a source of plant-based protein for animals,

*Recognizing* that pulses are leguminous plants that have nitrogen-fixing properties which can contribute to increasing soil fertility and have a positive impact on the environment,

*Recognizing also* that in many countries women have the primary responsibility for the cultivation of pulses and recognizing further the importance of empowering the women who grow them,

*Recognizing further* the potential of pulses to further the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recalling* that health organizations recommend a healthy diet, which may include pulses, to optimize nutrition as well as to help prevent and manage chronic diseases such as obesity, diabetes, coronary conditions and cancer,

[1] See *Report of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Fortieth Session, Rome, 3–8 July 2017* (C 2017/REP).

*Affirming* the need to continue to heighten public awareness of the nutritional benefits of eating a variety of food, including pulses, and affirming also the contribution of pulses to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the need to further promote sustainable agriculture,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary General on activities during the International Year of Pulses, 2016;[2]

2. *Decides* to designate 10 February as World Pulses Day;

3. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, individuals and other relevant stakeholders, to observe World Pulses Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities;

4. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the observance of World Pulses Day, in collaboration with other relevant organizations, mindful of provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67;

5. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

6. *Requests* the Secretary General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders for appropriate observance.

[2] A/73/287.

## Draft resolution III
## International Year of Plant Health, 2020

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

*Noting* that healthy plants constitute the foundation for all life on Earth, as well as ecosystem functions and food security, and are key to sustaining life on Earth,

*Recognizing* that plant health is key to the sustainable development of agriculture to feed the growing global population by 2050,

*Recognizing also* that sustaining plant health protects the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests, addresses the effects of climate change, and supports efforts to end hunger, malnutrition and poverty and boosts economic development, and that the protection of plant health from pests is a key factor in strategies to eliminate hunger and rural poverty,

*Stressing* the urgent need to raise awareness and to promote and facilitate actions towards the management of plant health in order to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

*Trusting* that the celebration of an international year would encourage actions to promote and implement activities in favour of preserving and sustaining global plant resources and raise awareness of the importance of plant health in addressing issues of global concern, including hunger, poverty and threats to the environment,

*Recalling* resolution 5/2017 of 7 July 2017, adopted at the fortieth session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, held in Rome from 3 to 8 July 2017,[1]

1. *Decides* to declare 2020 the International Year of Plant Health;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, individuals and other relevant stakeholders, to observe the International Year, as appropriate, through activities aimed at raising

[1] See *Report of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Fortieth Session, Rome, 3–8 July 2017* (C 2017/REP).

awareness of the importance of plant health and the economic, social and environmental impact of plant health on food security and ecosystem functions, and to share best practices in this regard;

3. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in collaboration with the International Plant Protection Convention, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to facilitate the implementation of the International Year;

4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

5. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to contribute to and support the International Year;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

## Draft resolution IV
## Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 65/178 of 20 December 2010, 66/220 of 22 December 2011, 67/228 of 21 December 2012, 68/233 of 20 December 2013, 69/240 of 19 December 2014, 70/223 of 22 December 2015, 71/245 of 21 December 2016 and 72/238 of 20 December 2017,

*Recalling also* the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,[1] particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security, and noting the Rome Declaration on Nutrition,[2] as well as the Framework for Action,[3] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate, adopted at the Second International Conference on Nutrition, held in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014,

*Recalling further* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[4] Agenda 21,[5] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[6] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[7] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[8] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[9] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[10] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[11] the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[12] the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024[13] and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[14]

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[15]

*Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a

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[1] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.
[2] World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annex I.
[3] Ibid., annex II.
[4] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.
[5] Ibid., annex II.
[6] Resolution S-19/2, annex.
[7] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.
[8] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.
[9] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.
[10] Resolution 60/1.
[11] Resolution 63/239, annex.
[12] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.
[13] Resolution 69/137, annex II.
[14] Resolution 69/15, annex.
[15] Resolution 66/288, annex.

comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

*Welcoming* the Paris Agreement,[16] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[17] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Highlighting* the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the special report entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

*Looking forward* to the climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019, to accelerate global action on climate change,

*Reaffirming* the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[18] and reaffirming also the importance of promoting the integration of food security and the nutritional needs of urban residents, particularly the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, in order to end hunger and malnutrition, as well as promoting coordination of sustainable food security and agriculture policies across urban, peri-urban and rural areas,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of supporting the African Union's Agenda 2063, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

*Reaffirming further* its resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016 and 72/279 of 31 May 2018, and welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to better position the United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular to enhance coordination and urgency in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2,

[16] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[17] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[18] Resolution 71/256, annex.

*Recalling* the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases[19] and the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[20] welcoming the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, held in New York on 27 September 2018, and its political declaration entitled "Time to deliver: accelerating our response to address non-communicable diseases for the health and well-being of present and future generations" adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 73/2 of 10 October 2018 as a renewal of the commitment to tackle non-communicable diseases, and underscoring the need to make progress on the agreed commitments,

*Welcoming* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis, held in New York on 26 September 2018, and the commitment in its political declaration[21] to the multisectoral action required to address the social and economic factors driving the worldwide tuberculosis epidemic,

*Recalling* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance, held in New York on 21 September 2016, and its political declaration, as set out in resolution 71/3 of 5 October 2016, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance,[22] developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health,

*Recalling also* the action plan on antimicrobial resistance 2016–2020 of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, which supports the food and agriculture sectors in implementing the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health,

*Expressing concern* that the current pace and scope of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 2 is unlikely to promote the transformational change needed and that its targets will not be achieved in many parts of the world, and calling for additional efforts to support the transformational change needed,

*Expressing concern also* that the multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments, civil society, the private sector and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition are poverty, growing inequality, inequity and lack of access to resources and income-earning opportunities, the effects of climate change and disasters, and conflicts, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices can pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and improved nutrition and to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition,

[19] Resolution 66/2, annex.
[20] Resolution 68/300.
[21] Resolution 73/3.
[22] World Health Organization, document WHA68/2015/REC/1, annex 3.

*Recalling* the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,[23] acknowledging that forests provide essential ecosystem services such as timber, food, fuel, fodder, non-wood products and shelter, as well as soil and water conservation and clean air, that sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests is vital to the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that forests prevent land degradation and desertification and reduce the risks of floods, landslides and avalanches, droughts, dust and sand storms and other disasters, and stressing in this regard the role of all types of forests, including boreal, temperate and tropical forests, in providing food security,

*Noting* the engagement of the Committee on World Food Security in advancing country-led implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Welcoming* the outcome of the forty-fifth session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 15 to 19 October 2018, taking note of its main outcomes, such as the launch of an inclusive process leading to the development of Committee on Food Security voluntary guidelines on food systems and nutrition, in support of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), recalling the endorsement by the Committee in 2014 of the Voluntary Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems[24] and the Committee's Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,[25] and taking note of the adoption of the policy recommendations on connecting smallholders to markets and on sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, including the role of livestock,

*Taking note* of the launch of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme under the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns,[26] an inclusive initiative to accelerate the shift towards more sustainable food systems,

*Recalling* the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, which is helping the least developed countries to strengthen their science, technology and innovation capacities and fostering the development of national and regional innovation ecosystems, as well as developing capacities for partnerships in science, technology and innovation collaboration with other countries worldwide,

*Noting with appreciation* the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), on agricultural development and on enhancing food security and food safety and improving nutrition outcomes,

*Recalling* the declaration of 2016–2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, based on the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action, and the call upon the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization to implement a work programme for 2016–2025, taking into account contributions from relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, using coordinating mechanisms such as the Standing Committee on Nutrition and multi-stakeholder platforms such as the Committee on World Food Security,

[23] See resolution 71/285.

[24] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2015/20, appendix D.

[25] Ibid., document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

[26] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

*Welcoming* the adoption of its resolution 72/239 of 20 December 2017, in which it proclaimed 2019–2028 the United Nations Decade of Family Farming, which raised the profile of the role of family farming in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to the achievement of food security and improved nutrition,

*Reaffirming* that agriculture remains a fundamental and key sector for developing countries, and noting the importance of working towards eliminating all forms of protectionism,

*Acknowledging* the importance of promoting sustainable farming and agriculture, which will contribute to sustainable food production systems and the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems and help to eradicate hunger and malnutrition,

*Bearing in mind* that the agriculture sector depends heavily on biodiversity and its components, as well as on the ecosystem functions and services which biodiversity underpins, and that these sectors also have an impact on biodiversity in various direct and indirect ways, as acknowledged in the Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being,

*Reaffirming* the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain their physical and mental capacities, and underlining the need to make special efforts to meet nutritional needs, especially of women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, as well as of those living in vulnerable situations,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the publications entitled *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2018: Building Climate Resilience for Food Security and Nutrition*, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund, and *The State of Food and Agriculture 2018: Migration, Agriculture and Rural Development*, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

*Remaining deeply concerned* that, according to the most recent estimates of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, the number of chronically undernourished people in the world increased to nearly 821 million in 2017, from around 804 million in 2016, and that global nutrition challenges are increasingly complex as multiple forms of malnutrition, including stunting, wasting, underweight, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity, may coexist within the same country or household,

*Recognizing* that economic slowdown, gender inequalities, conflict, drought and the adverse effects of climate change, including more frequent and extreme weather events, are among the key factors contributing to a reversal in the long-term progress in fighting global hunger, making the prospect of ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030 more difficult,

*Remaining deeply concerned* about the continuing food insecurity and malnutrition being faced by hundreds of millions of people, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa and in South and West Asia,

*Recognizing* the need to prevent the recurrence in the future of deaths of people from famine,

*Expressing its concern* about the growing number of obese adults in the world, from 563.7 million in 2012 to 672.3 million in 2016,

*Expressing its concern* also that, according to the *Global Report on Food Crises 2018*, the number of people facing crisis-level food insecurity or worse has increased dramatically, up from almost 108 million in 2016 to 124 million in 2017 in countries affected by, inter alia, conflict and exacerbated by climate-related events, environmental factors, including natural disasters, and excessive food price volatility,

*Noting* that an increasing number of countries, in particular in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific, are integrating food security and nutrition into their agriculture policies and investment plans and that, as a result, eradicating hunger, improving food security and ensuring adequate nutrition are being given greater prominence in regional development strategies, such as the African Union Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations food security and nutrition strategy, the Piura Declaration on Food Security, the Framework for Multi-Year Programme on Food Security and Climate Change and the Strategic Framework on Rural-Urban Development to Strengthen Food Security and Quality Growth, adopted by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 Initiative, the strategy on food security and nutrition of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and the Arab food security initiative, all of which emphasized the importance of investing in agriculture, diversifying food production and diets and providing quality nutritional education to consumers, introducing labour-saving technologies in food production and processing, enhancing women's access to income and strengthening capacity-building in improving food safety at all stages of the food chain, and noting also the establishment of the Islamic Organization for Food Security, headquartered in Astana,

*Reiterating* the urgent need for action to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, in particular for women, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, as well as the other root causes of food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition,

*Expressing concern* that climate change will disproportionately impact the most vulnerable people, especially women and children, and their livelihoods, ultimately putting hundreds of millions of people at risk, and that by 2050, the risk of hunger and child malnutrition could increase by up to 20 per cent owing to climate change,

*Reiterating* the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as well as the recognition and protection of the rights of small-holders, particularly women, reiterating also the importance, inter alia, of empowering rural women, youth, small-scale farmers, family farmers and livestock farmers, fishers and fish workers as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development and food security and for improving nutrition outcomes, and acknowledging their fundamental contribution to the environmental sustainability and the genetic preservation of agricultural systems and to sustaining productivity on often marginal lands,

*Recognizing* that livestock contributes 40 per cent of the global value of agricultural output and supports the livelihoods and food security of almost 1.3 billion people, and in this regard acknowledging that the sector offers opportunities for sustainable agricultural development, poverty eradication and food security gains, and offers an opportunity for raising climate awareness,

*Acknowledging* that social protection programmes and measures are effective in reducing poverty and hunger,

*Recognizing* the importance of initiatives under the United Nations system, including the observance of World Pulses Day, World Tuna Day, Sustainable Gastronomy Day, World Bee Day, World Food Safety Day, World Soil Day, the International Year of Camelids, the International Year of Plant Health, the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development" and the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), aimed at increasing public awareness of relevant agriculture, food security and nutritional benefits, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

*Recognizing also* the need to increase responsible public and private investment in the agriculture sector, inter alia, to find inclusive solutions to and fight hunger and malnutrition and to promote rural and urban sustainable development,

*Recalling* the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and its guiding principles,[27] and recalling also its promotion of regular disaster preparedness, response and recovery exercises, at the national and local levels, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs,

*Noting* the Committee on World Food Security Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises, the Committee's policy recommendations on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition and its policy recommendations on food losses and waste in the context of sustainable food systems,

*Recalling* that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging that reaching Goal 2 and the interlinked targets of other Goals will be critical, inter alia, in ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[28]

2. *Stresses* the importance of continued consideration of the issue of agriculture development, food security and nutrition, and encourages Member States and relevant stakeholders to give due consideration to this issue while implementing the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[29] and its Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Emphasizes* that sustainable agricultural production, food security, food safety and nutrition are key elements for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and calls for greater efforts to sustainably enhance the agricultural production capacities, productivity and food security of developing countries;

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[27] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[28] A/73/293.

[29] Resolution 70/1.

4. *Also emphasizes* the need to accelerate and scale up action, as appropriate, to strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacity of food systems and people's livelihoods in response to climate variability and extremes, to achieve a world without hunger and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030;

5. *Expresses concern* that the world is not on track to eradicate hunger and malnutrition by 2030 and that scarce and unsustainably managed natural resources, combined with insecure and uneven tenure rights for smallholders, are severely affecting those in vulnerable situations in rural areas, that climate change, including the adverse impact of sea level rise, drought, desertification and conflict and post-conflict situations are challenges with regard to food security and nutrition and diet-related non-communicable diseases in many places, preventing progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that countries in protracted crises are at risk of being left behind;

6. *Stresses* that urgent and concerted action is needed at all levels to recover momentum and accelerate efforts to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition, comprehensively tackling both its causes and effects, and to promote improved nutrition and sustainable agriculture and food systems;

7. *Reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that improving food security and nutrition is a global challenge and a national policy responsibility and that any plans for addressing this challenge in the context of eradicating poverty must be nationally articulated, designed, owned, led and built in consultation, as an inclusive process, with all key stakeholders at the national level, as appropriate, and urges Member States, especially those affected, to make food security, food safety and nutrition a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to continue its support for the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and its results framework, which is an integral component of the Programme that provides guidance on planning and implementing investment programmes;

9. *Encourages* Member States, in designing their national policies, to fully take into account the Rome Declaration on Nutrition[2] as well as the Framework for Action,[3] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for the use of Governments, as appropriate;

10. *Urges* increased political commitment by Member States to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition, notes in this regard the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, and encourages Member States to engage in the movement at the global and country levels to reduce the increasing level in global hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in particular among children, especially children under the age of 2, women, especially those who are pregnant and lactating, and youth;

11. *Underscores* the need to address child stunting, which remains unacceptably high, with nearly 151 million children under 5 years of age, or over 22 per cent, affected by stunting in 2017;

12. *Emphasizes* the six global nutrition targets set by the World Health Assembly to address global malnutrition and the related monitoring framework;

13. *Takes note* of the Global Nutrition for Growth Compact, signed by more than 100 countries, companies and civil society organizations, to reduce the number of stunted children by 20 million by 2020 and the financial commitments made to support this goal, as well as the third Nutrition for Growth Summit, held in Milan, Italy, in November 2017;

14. *Stresses* the need to increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity globally, noting the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems, including by improving and aiming to ensure the functioning of markets and trading systems and strengthening international cooperation, particularly for developing countries, and by increasing responsible public and private investment in sustainable agriculture, land management and rural development, as well as collaboration in science, technology and innovation, and notes that the benefit of such public and private investment and engagement should also reach, where appropriate, local smallholders in appropriate knowledge management systems and communications systems with regard to promoting food security, improving nutrition outcomes and reducing inequality;

15. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience and sustainability of food and agricultural production with regard to climate change in the context of the rising demand for crops, bearing in mind the importance of safeguarding food security and ending hunger and the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change, and encourages efforts at all levels to support climate-sensitive agricultural practices, including agroforestry, agroecology, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought-and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management, and to establish and strengthen interfaces between scientists, decision makers, entrepreneurs and funders of science, technology and innovation, as well as measures to strengthen the resilience of those in vulnerable situations and of food systems, which can also have a wider positive impact, emphasizing adaptation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers;

16. *Reaffirms* the need to promote, enhance and support more sustainable agriculture, including crops, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, that improves food security, eradicates hunger, helps to prevent malnutrition and is economically viable, while conserving land, water, plant and animal genetic resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters, and recognizes the need to maintain natural ecological processes that support sustainable and efficient food production systems and ensure food security, underlines the importance of mainstreaming conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the agriculture sector, and takes note of the importance of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems and the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform promoted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

17. *Expresses concern* about antimicrobial resistance, in particular in the agricultural sector, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the action plan on antimicrobial resistance 2016–2020 of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, which supports the food and agriculture sectors in implementing the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance[22] developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health, in order to minimize the impact of antimicrobial resistance;

18. *Recognizes* that sustainable food systems have a fundamental role to play in promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition and preventing and controlling non-communicable diseases, and welcomes the formulation and implementation of internationally consistent national policies aimed at eradicating malnutrition in all its forms and transforming food systems so as to make nutritious diets available to all, while reaffirming that health, water and sanitation systems must be strengthened simultaneously to end malnutrition;

19. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists with respect to many

assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to empower women, in particular rural women, to address their own food and nutritional needs and those of their families, to promote adequate standards of living for them, as well as decent conditions of work, and to guarantee their personal health, well-being and security, full access to land and natural resources and access to local, regional and global markets;

20. *Recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women, including smallholders and women farmers, and indigenous women and women in local communities, and their traditional knowledge in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty, and in this regard stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that the critical role of women in food security and nutrition is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to food insecurity, malnutrition, potential excessive price volatility and food crises in developing countries, as well as of the recognition and protection of the rights of smallholders, in particular women;

21. *Reaffirms* the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture in enhancing food security and access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people, particularly inhabitants of small island developing States, and in this regard encourages the full implementation of the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States, which was launched on 4 July 2017;

22. *Encourages and recognizes* the efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, capacity-building and systems development;

23. *Remains deeply concerned* about the recurring food insecurity and malnutrition in different regions of the world and their ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in sub-Saharan Africa and South and West Asia, and in this regard underlines the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner;

24. *Recognizes* the important role of indigenous peoples and local communities, small-scale farmers, family farmers, livestock farmers, small-scale fishers and fish workers and their traditional knowledge and seed supply systems, as well the important role of new technologies in the conservation of biodiversity and in aiming to ensure food security and improved nutrition;

25. *Stresses* the importance of the application of science, technology and innovation and related knowledge management and communications systems in ensuring food security by 2030, and encourages the adoption of the most advanced and appropriate information technology, such as the Internet, mobile platforms, meteorology, big data and cloud computing, in agriculture systems in order to support the efforts of smallholder and family farmers to increase their resilience, productivity and incomes and include them in the development of research and innovation agendas;

26. *Emphasizes* the need to revitalize the agriculture sector, promote rural development and aim for ensuring food security and nutrition, notably in developing countries, in a sustainable manner, which will contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and underlines the importance of taking the necessary actions to

better address the needs of rural communities by, inter alia, enhancing access for agricultural producers, in particular small producers, women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, persons with disabilities and older persons, in conflict and post-conflict situations, to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health-care services, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including for development of local crops, efficient irrigation, reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage;

27. *Recognizes* that, by 2050, the world urban population is expected to nearly double, making urbanization one of the most transformative trends of the twenty-first century, underscoring the growing need to take action to fight hunger and malnutrition among the urban poor through promoting the integration of the food security and nutrition needs of urban residents, in particular the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, to end hunger and malnutrition, promoting the coordination of sustainable food security and agriculture policies across urban, peri-urban and rural areas to facilitate the production, storage, transport and marketing of food to consumers in adequate and affordable ways, to reduce food losses and to prevent and reuse food waste, and promoting the coordination of food policies with energy, water, health, transport and waste and other policies in urban areas to maximize efficiencies and minimize waste;

28. *Reaffirms* the need to strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security and nutrition that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security;

29. *Also reaffirms* the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food, nutrition and agriculture, extension services, training and education, and of funding for such research from all sources, to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability in order to strengthen agriculture as a key sector, to promote development and to build up resilience to support better recovery from crisis, including by strengthening the work of the reformed Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research so as to enhance its development impact, supporting national research systems, public universities and research institutions and promoting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices and research to adapt to climate change and improve equitable access to research results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, while giving due consideration to the preservation of genetic resources;

30. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable, multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security and nutrition, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the inclusive participation of farmers and fishers and fish workers, especially small-scale farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets;

31. *Recognizes* the efforts made by Member States and United Nations agencies that have already announced their commitments to the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), and encourages all relevant stakeholders to actively support the implementation of the Decade, including by making commitments and establishing action networks;

32. *Looks forward* to the upcoming commencement of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), and in this regard encourages the full

implementation of resolution 72/239, which supports the development, improvement and implementation of public policies on family farming;

33. *Stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the regional commissions and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and international trade and economic institutions, including with the support of the Secretary-General's High-level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation between these organizations and with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards sustainable agriculture development, food security and nutrition;

34. *Notes* the International Fund for Agricultural Development initiative of organizing the first International Conference on South-South and Triangular Cooperation, on the theme "Leveraging Innovations from the Global South to Support Rural Transformation", held in Brasilia on 20 and 21 November 2017;

35. *Looks forward* to the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, to be held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019;

36. *Recognizes* the contribution made thus far by early warning systems, and underlines that the reliability and timeliness of such systems should be further strengthened at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on countries that are particularly vulnerable to price shocks and food emergencies;

37. *Reaffirms* the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security as a major intergovernmental platform for a broad range of stakeholders to work together towards ensuring food security and nutrition for all, and notes the three main functions of policy convergence, lesson-sharing and progress review that the Committee performs in support of the integrated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition;

38. *Encourages* countries to give due consideration to the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,[25] as well as the voluntary Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems,[24] as endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012 and 2014, respectively;

39. *Also encourages* countries to fully engage in the ongoing development of the Committee on Food Security voluntary guidelines on food systems and nutrition supporting the transformation towards more sustainable food systems that safeguard the health and nutrition of populations;

40. *Further encourages* countries to give due consideration to the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 2004,[30] as well as the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 adopted by the General Assembly in 2017;[31]

[30] E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

[31] Resolution 71/285.

41. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind, and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition", unless otherwise agreed.